

Claims

- [c1] 1. Coating apparatus for coating a moving web with a liquid, the web having a width and moving in a first direction, the apparatus comprising:
- [c2] an applicator roll having a first axis perpendicular to the first direction,
- [c3] a stiffener having first and second ends and rotatable about a second axis, the second axis parallel with the first axis, the stiffener elongated in the axial direction, the stiffener comprising a first nozzle and a second nozzle, each of the first nozzle and the second nozzle elongated in the axial direction;
- [c4] the stiffener movable between first and second stiffener positions, the stiffener in said first stiffener position juxtaposing the first nozzle with the applicator roll, the stiffener in said second stiffener position juxtaposing the second nozzle with the applicator roll;
- [c5] each of the first nozzle and the second nozzle comprising a metering surface, a flexible back seal resting against the applicator roll when juxtaposed therewith, and end seals at respective first and second ends of the stiffener, the metering surface and back seal each elongated in the axial direction and parallel with each other and with the end seals defining a reservoir cavity;

- [c6] the stiffener further comprising first and second feed pipes corresponding with the first and second nozzles, each feed pipe feeding to the reservoir cavity of the respective nozzle;
- [c7] the nozzles less wide in the axial direction than the width of the applicator roll, the arrangement of the back seal and the metering surface such that the applicator roll when rolling encounters first the back seal and afterwards the metering surface;
- [c8] the liquid provided to the reservoir cavity, when juxtaposed with the applicator roll, from either gravity or a low pressure pump.